

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, March 9, 1960/Phalguna
19, 1881 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Coal Cutting Machines

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*709. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
 { Shri Subodh Hansda:
 { Shri R. C. Majhi:

Will the Minister of Commerce and
Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the
proposal for manufacturing coal cut-
ting machines in collaboration with a
West German firm has been approved
by Government;

(b) if so, whether the plant for
manufacturing the machines has been
set up; and

(c) whether it has started manu-
facturing the machines?

The Minister of Industry (Shri
Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c). An
existing unit has been granted a
licence under the Industries (Develop-
ment and Regulation) Act, 1951, for
effecting an expansion to their under-
taking at Kusunda, Bihar, for the
manufacture of 24 coal cutting
machines and spare parts thereof per
annum. The scheme involves techni-
cal collaboration with a West German
firm. The firm have installed the
necessary machinery and is expected
to commence production within the
next six months.

407 (A) L.S.D.—1.

Shri S. C. Samanta: What is the
requirement of the country at present?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The require-
ment is enormous. It is estimated that
with the development of coal mining
and other minerals we will require
more than Rs. 30 crores worth of
machinery per year.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know
whether the second firm which is
manufacturing haulages etc., will also
be given a chance?

Shri Manubhai Shah: As many of
them as want to develop this industry
will be given chance.

Foreigners in India

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*711. { Shri A. M. Tariq:
 { Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
 { Pandit D. N. Tiwari:
 { Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:
 { Shri M. B. Thakore:
 { Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased
to lay a statement showing:

(a) the number of foreign nationals
detected, refused permission to land
and later repatriated to their respec-
tive countries for trying to enter into
India with forged passports during the
years 1958 and 1959 as compared to
the number of Indian Nationals simi-
larly dealt with under similar condi-
tions in foreign countries; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to
be taken to prevent Indian Nationals
leaving India on passports which prove
to be forged when examined by Immi-
gration Officials in foreign countries?

The Deputy Minister of External
Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):
(a) Two foreign nationals were re-
patriated during 1959 on account of
arrival with invalid passports. There

was no such case in 1958. 54 Indian Nationals were repatriated from abroad in 1958 and 85 in 1959 or early 1960.

(b) Government have arranged for prior verification of validity of passports of persons travelling to Europe or North America where such persons are not conversant with English. Police investigations into passport forgery cases have been centralised and intensified. Leaflets in Hindi and Punjabi, warning the general public to beware of agents, touts and others who procure forged passports, have been distributed in several districts in the Punjab.

Shri A. M. Tariq: May I know if any arrangements have been made to detect these forged passports or to catch hold of them to find out as to how they have arranged these forged passports?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: We are examining the possibility of introducing scientific equipment at passport checkposts to enable better detection of forgeries as also special safeguards at the time of issue of passports.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The hon. Deputy Minister has said that two foreign nationals were repatriated. What was their nationality?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: One of them was an Afghan national and the other a Dutch national.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that one agent of these passport racketeers lives in London and recently he visited those stranded Indians in the camps in Rome in a desperate attempt to cancel the source of forged passports? If so... (Laughter). This was in the papers. It is not a matter to be laughed at. What active steps have Government taken in this matter or has this matter brought to the knowledge of the U.K. Government to trace out this man, who is supposed to live in London and is supposed to indulge in forged passports business?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal

Nehru): It is a very involved question. I shall endeavour to answer it. Obviously if there was a large-scale conspiracy for the issue of passports, there are agents in various places. This matter has proceeded for some time and the enquiry into it. We will go to the law courts. I cannot tell the hon. Member in regard to what a particular person in England might have done.

Shri Hem Barua: My question is specific.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Member asks an involved question consisting of three or four questions. Let him be specific with respect to one question.

Shri Hem Barua: I will ask a specific question. It is said that one agent of the passport racketeers lives in London. If so, may I know whether Government have taken up this matter with the U.K. Government to ascertain whether there is a man like that in England or not?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir, I cannot give an answer to that question partly because I do not know about any particular person. But always generally in such matters we receive the co-operation of the British authorities—I do not mean the top authorities, but Scotland Yard and the Police authorities co-operate with us whenever necessary.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I know the names of the countries in which our nationals were dealt with in the manner in which two foreign nationals were dealt with in India?

Mr. Speaker: How does it arise out of this question?

Shri Braj Raj Singh: It does arise.

Mr. Speaker: I will come to it later.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether any action is taken against those who are found travelling from India to other countries without passports or who come to India without passports?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The whole question is about action taken. The hon. Member wants to know if any action is taken. Obviously because action has been taken this question has arisen.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: I want to know whether any prosecution has been launched against them or not.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: So far as other countries are concerned, it depends on what they decide to do. Normally they simply push him out of their country. They may take other actions they are entitled to. As for us, we have taken action sometimes. Sometimes the other punishment involved has been so great that we have not taken any further action. But the real persons who are responsible are the persons who issue the passports.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I know the names of the countries in which our nationals were dealt with in the manner in which two nationals were dealt with in India?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: In 1958 Ceylon 1, West Germany 5, Belgium 2, British East Africa 26, United Kingdom 20 and Italy nil. In 1959 Ceylon 1, British East Africa 17, United Kingdom 53 and Italy 24.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that recently 20 foreigners were refused residential permits by the West Bengal Government for indulging in activities prejudicial to the interests of the country? If so, may I know whether Government have any information of foreigners indulging in this sort of activities and the steps that Government have taken to check it?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: We have no information about this particular instance. Usually when foreigners indulge in anti-national activities, they are repatriated or are asked to leave the country.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: The hon. Deputy Minister in the course of her reply said that there was one case in

Ceylon. Is not Ceylon one of the Commonwealth countries? How could it be termed as foreign?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: So is the United Kingdom.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: In this case he was travelling on a forged passport.

Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951

*712. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 591 on the 27th November, 1959 and state at what stage is the question of assuming more powers under the Industries (Development and Regulations) Act, 1951 to take over industries which close down or go into liquidation on account of internal quarrel of the management?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): The matter is under active consideration.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether the views of the employees concerned will also be ascertained before taking final action?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Once enquiry under section 15 of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act is completed, Government is the sole authority to decide whether to take over a concern or not, and the House will be glad to know that in the case of 11 factories we not only made an enquiry, but took them over and are running nine of them now.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The question refers to more power under the Industries (Development and Regulations) Act. I want to know whether much difficulty was experienced in taking over such mills, and if so, I want to know what more powers, or the quantum of power, contemplated now under the Act.

Shri Manubhai Shah: As the Act stands today, once a company has gone into liquidation, it is in charge of the